

**Submission
No 45**

INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Ms Suzanne Hopping

Date Received: 22 May 2018

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Dear Enquiry,

I strongly oppose the destruction of Philip Cox's award-winning stadium at Moore Park. My reasons are outlined below:

Why is Government policy focused on creating major sports and entertainment facilities on the edge of an already congested city with inadequate public transport, when the larger population and demand for such facilities is in Western Sydney?

This rebuild is not just about sports – it's about creating a multi-complex entertainment precinct. Why is this not located in the centre of population in Western Sydney, where Infrastructure NSW has given a timeframe of 6 months to assess the project. This is an unusually fast determination for a project of this size and complexity. The Government appears to be fast tracking an approval so demolition of the current stadium can occur before the next election.

There has not been any meaningful community consultation and the government has been unwilling to release the strategic business case to justify the proposal. The project is more than likely to cost far more than it benefits.

There will be much disruption to the surrounding residential areas and parklands from demolition, construction and operations, which will not only include sporting events but large music concerts.

There will be more tragic loss of trees to facilitate the expansion of the new stadium. Traffic congestion will be increased in an already congested area – the combination of the sporting stadium and the widened road to accommodate the Alexandria to Moore Park Connector from St Peters Interchange to Anzac Parade is a recipe for further gridlock. The Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust has failed to maintain the stadium which has led to the current safety and security problems, these can be rectified with a far less costly and intrusive renovation.

Ongoing use of the Moore Parklands for spectator parking will cause further degradation of surrounding parklands. All parking should be taken off the grass and be restricted to the new facility, under built-on areas.

There is a need to preserve the former Sydney Showground, which is now under threat of commercialisation and appropriation for professional sport, for much-needed community/amateur sports use (both indoor and outdoor).

The proposal is a waste of tax-payers money and the failure to adequately consult the community is nothing less than shameful.

Please think and consult before you act.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

Yours in good faith
Suzanne Hopping